

*WISDOM FOR AND FROM THE
PEOPLE*

trifles. *⁴ He quarrelled with the oilman
and ate his
bread dry/?—he could not get oil for it.
**The un-
practised Brahmin performed sacrifice and
burnt his
beard and moustache/" is another of these
stories.

The humour of these proverbs is too
obvious to
need pointing out. The words in every
case are apt
and simple. In many cases there is rhyme;
in most
cases there is a balancing of idea and
phrase. Alto-
gether these proverbs cover the whole
ground of daily
experience and as expression of the
collective wisdom
of a population would compare favourably
with the pro-
verbs of any language or people.